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DRAFT DECISION ON PREPARATIONS FOR COP 4

Group of 77 and China

The Conference of the Parties,

1. *Recalling* Article 7.4 of the Convention, which stipulates that "ordinary sessions of the COP shall be held every year unless otherwise decided by the COP",

2. *Bearing in mind* the provision of the Convention which, in Article 4.2 (d) provides that a second review of sub-paragraphs 4.2 (a) and (b) "shall take place not later than 31 December 1998, and thereafter at regular intervals determined by the Conference of the Parties until the objective of the Convention is met",

3. *Affirming* that all Parties to the Convention must abide by the provision of the Convention,

4. *Decided* hereby to

(a) Request that the "second review" as stipulated in Article 4.2 (d) of the Convention be placed on the agenda of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to be held not later than 31 December 1998;

(b) Request that the Convention secretariat make all necessary preparations for the second review by Conference of the Parties at its fourth session (COP 4) of adequacy or Article 4.2 sub-paragraphs (a) and (b), taking into account the actions taken and progress made since the adoption of decision 1/CP.1, including a compilation of relevant excerpts of the additional communications from Annex I Parties in this regard;

5. *Further request* the secretariat to render all necessary assistance to, and provide all relevant information to, the Subsidiary Body for Implementation and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice in making preparations well in advance for COP 4 to conduct the aforementioned "second review" not later than 31 December 1998 as provided for in Article 4.2 (d) of the Convention.

N.B.: The above operative paragraphs are based on position statement made by Group of 77 and China on 26 February 1997.